



## DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

### Kuhio Beach – background information

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### KUHIO BEACH SAND NOURISHMENT PROJECT

A University of Hawai‘i sand thickness survey identified several potential offshore sand sources in near shore Waikiki waters that are viable for beach replenishment. The survey identifies the sand thickness and sand compatibility of the offshore sand pockets to the existing beach at Kuhio.

Project objectives are to increase the size of the dry beach at Kuhio Beach, and to demonstrate state of the art offshore sand pumping technologies for future beach restoration efforts.

Rather than expand the width of the beach in the two basin areas, the goal will be to “inflate” the beaches by pushing the sand up against the landward sea walls. Over time the sand will fill in the lower portions of the existing beaches, but not expand farther into swimming areas.

The sand replenishment project will involve:

- delivery of dredged sand from the offshore area to Kuhio Beach,
- separation and disposal of non-beach compatible material including, coral rubble,
- management and grading of discharged dredged material on the beach,
- management of water effluent and spoils, stockpiling of suitable sand,
- preparation of an operations plan, with best management practices, and water quality monitoring,
- coordination of a public safety plan with the City and County of Honolulu, Water Safety Division and Department of Facilities Maintenance, and
- preparation of an after-action report describing and evaluating the project design and implementation and environmental considerations.

DLNR has worked with the state Dept. of Health, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Coastal Zone Management Program, NOAA-National Marine Fisheries and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure the project meets all state and federal requirements for environmental quality control.

For project information and updates, go to the DLNR Office of Conservation and Coastal Lands web site at <http://www.hawaii.gov/dlnr/occl/waikiki.php>

DLNR will be coordinating its work with city and state agencies and keeping hotel and visitor industry representatives informed as the project proceeds

Water quality monitoring will be done during the project by the Department of Health Clean Water branch to assure safe conditions.

The data obtained from this project will be used to establish appropriate environmental and design parameters, cost estimates, pumping system designs and production rates for future beach replenishment efforts.

Kuhio Beach has a long history of engineering and beach replenishment, having undergone regular beach replenishment to maintain a sandy beach since 1939, when the north section of the Kuhio beach breakwater was built.

Past beach replenishment efforts have been carried out regularly, but little has been done to maintain Kuhio Beach since the last major replenishment effort in 1975. Coastal erosion patterns have led to sandless areas at high tide.